

**CHAPTER NO. 72**

**SENATE BILL NO. 1113**

**By Cooper, Rochelle**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 907

By Head, Walker

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-9-204, relative to brakes on trailers and semitrailers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-9-204, is amended by designating subsection (c) as subdivision (c)(1), and by adding a new subdivision thereto, as follows:

(2) Provided however, this subsection shall not apply to trailers or semitrailers operating solely intrastate with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of seventy-five hundred (7,500) pounds or less and equipped with a hydraulic breakaway mechanism which is separate from the hitch itself and utilizes surge brakes. "Surge brakes" shall be defined as a system complying with SAE Standards J-135, J-661, J-667, and J-684 whereby the brakes of a trailer are actuated as a result of the forward pressure of the trailer against the tow vehicle during deceleration.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: March 24, 1999**

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**APPROVED this 7th day of April 1999**

  
DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR